

prospering. His home was open to the stranger that might come along. His confidences were sometimes abused and imposition practiced upon him, but that made no difference with his treatment of others. For years his home was at the service of the preachers, and thus most of the preaching on Upper Elk was at his house. It was a great undertaking to locate in the unbroken forest and build up a home and rear the family these worthy people succeeded so well in accomplishing. All such should be remembered and their services gratefully appreciated, and the story of their lives told for the instruction and encouragement of the generations following. The righteous, the honest and industrious should be held in lasting remembrance.

VALENTINE CACKLEY.

During the last century but few names have been more familiarly known in our county, before and since the organization, than the Cackleys. The ancestors of this relationship were Valentine Cackley, Senior, and Mary Frye, his wife, from the lower Valley not far from Winchester, at Capon Springs. They located at Millpoint about 1778. These worthy people were of German descent. The original name was Keckly, and came to be spelled Cackley by the way it was pronounced. Their sons were Levi, William, Joseph, Valentine, Benjamin, and their daughters were Alice, Mary, Anne, and Rebecca—six sons and four daughters.

Alice, the eldest daughter, became the wife of the

late Samuel M. Gay, who resided on the farm now held by the heirs of the late George Gibson, on the Greenbrier above Marlinton two miles. Mr Gibson was her grandson. Mrs Gay was a very estimable person, and the story of her life would make thrilling reading.

Mary Cackley was married to Willette Perkins, and went west.

Anne Cackley became the wife of Thomas Hill.

Rebecca Cackley was married to John Ewing. Her family went to Ohio. She was the mother of eleven sons. The youngest was named Eleven Ewing. It is believed that the famous Tom Ewing, statesman and orator, and as such was the pride of Ohio, in his time was of this family.

Levi Cackley married Nancy Bradshaw, daughter of John Bradshaw the founder of Huntersville, and settled on Stamping Creek, where some of his worthy descendants yet reside. Jacob, Levi, and William were the names of his sons. Rev A. M. Cackley, D. D., of the Baltimore conference, is a grandson.

William Cackley, son of Valentine, married Jennie Gay, daughter of Robert Gay, and first settled on the property now owned by Mathews Ruckman, near Mill-point, and also operated a store. Having sold his farm to the late D. L. Ruckman, he moved his family to a farm on Cummings Creek, near Huntersville, where he resided for many years, farming and merchandizing and in public office. A singular occurrence was connected with this removal to Huntersville. Mrs Cackley had become tired of her flock of pigeons and tried

to leave them back, but to her surprise the pigeons were on the oak tree near the dwelling the next morning.

Mr and Mrs Cackley were the parents of five sons and four daughters: Robert, Claiborne, Frye, Davis, and John; Mary, Leah, Hannah, Ann and Sarah Jane. Mary became the wife of J. J. Clark, merchant from Staunton. Leah became Mrs John Hogsett and lived on Elk. Hannah was married to William Floyd and lived at Sutton, Braxton County.

William Cackley was a captain in the war of 1812. His kindness to his company endeared himself to the soldiers and their friends and gave him great popularity. He was a Jacksonian Democrat; went several terms to the Legislature; was Sheriff of the County. Late in life he moved to Illinois, where most of his surviving posterity reside.

Valentine Cackley, Junior was married to Mary Moore, from Eastern Virginia. Their daughter Caroline was the first wife of Harper McLaughlin; and their son, William H. Cackley, once a prominent citizen of Pocahontas, now a merchant in Ronceverte.

Valentine Cackley took the census for Pocahontas County in 1840. He had the lower mill erected at Millpoint. Joseph Cackley owned the upper mill, and after selling out to Sampson Mathews, he migrated to Ohio, married and settled there.

Benjamin Cackley staid awhile on his share of the homestead, now known as the Lee Place, and sold out to his brother Joseph and went to Jackson County, O.

The youngest son of Valentine Cackley, Senior, was

named Jacob. He seemed to have been excessively fond of athletic sports—running, wrestling, and pitching quoits. One of the most popular diversions of that time seems a singular one to us. It was to see who could throw a pumpkin the highest and catch it while falling. Another diversion was skipping flat stones over the water. One day while thus amusing himself, with several others, on the mill race, Jacob suddenly collapsed and was carried into the house. He had overexerted himself by an underhanded throw, and received internal injuries, and died from the effects a most excruciating death. As a final resort quicksilver was given him, the effects of which were agonizing in the extreme. Dr Althair was the attending physician.

Valentine Cackley, the pioneer, accumulated an immense landed estate. His home was about the location occupied by Isaac McNeel's residence. It seems at one time to have been within the limits of the fort. The fort was about where the garden is. Persons yet living have seen relics picked up by parties working in the garden. He encouraged and promoted useful industries. A firstclass mill, for the time, was built; a tannery projected, a tilt hammer started, and a store carried on. While the venerable pioneer could overlook a wide prospect from his home, and while he was not quite "the lord of all his eye could survey," yet he could lay claim to a goodly portion of what was in sight east, north, and west of Millpoint. The name of such a person is worthy of remembrance, for he left a very important and influential part of our county much better off than it was when he settled therein.